

HOW THE ARMY IS FORMED.

In order to provide against the recurrence of such a contingency, the formation of the National Guard Mobile, on the plan of the Prussian Landwehr, was decided upon. They have to perform the entire military duty required in the interior of the country during war, so as to leave the whole of the active army available for the battle-field.

The French military force is in three distinct parts: the active army, the National Guard Mobile, and the Landwehr.

Every able-bodied adult is liable to service in the active army unless he can procure a substitute. The number of recruits is fixed by law at 100,000 annually.

The Landwehr is formed of all the men who do not fulfil military requirements. During 1868 and 1869, 100,000 men were drawn each year, while for 1870 the Minister of War only decided to draw 80,000. The number of the Landwehr is therefore about 200,000.

Men of the age of 16,000 may be considered fit for service. They draw lots to decide who has to enter the active army, and who is to go into the Landwehr.

From the 100,000 recruits usually designated for active service we must deduct: 5,000 men exempted on account of infirmities; 10,000 men who are considered before getting of age or who are exempt by special law; and 20,000 men who procure substitutes for themselves.

There remain 65,000 men who are sent to serve in the National Guard Mobile, making a total of